

REMARKS

The courteous interview granted by Examiner Gilbert on April 20, 2010, is noted with appreciation. At the interview the claims were discussed and it was agreed that an amendment would be submitted clarifying that the high and low belts are on opposite sides of the panel, better describing the shape of the gutter 54, and clarifying the scope of the stiffening means. The above amendments are intended to address these items.

In particular, "stiffening means" has been changed to "reinforcing means," and corresponding clarifying amendments have also been made to the specification. "Reinforcing means" as used in the claims is intended to be construed in accordance with 35 USC §112, sixth paragraph to include the metal rod 70 and/or the concrete "b," and their equivalents. For example the metal rod 70 could be an IPN (a rolled steel joist) or other metal reinforcing element.

Additional clarifying amendments have also been made. "Angle-determining means" has been changed to "angle-determining element" to obviate construction of this element pursuant to 35 USC §112, sixth paragraph. New claims 22 and 23 have been added to clarify the recitations further.

Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the differences between the invention and the prior art set forth in the previous response.

It is believed that all of the amendments are fully supported by the specification and that no new matter has been presented.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication thereof is respectfully requested. The examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any outstanding issues.

All necessary extensions of time are hereby requested, even though none is believed to be required. Please charge any fee deficiency to deposit account 50-1088.

Respectfully submitted,
CLARK & BRODY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Conrad Clark", positioned above a horizontal line.

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